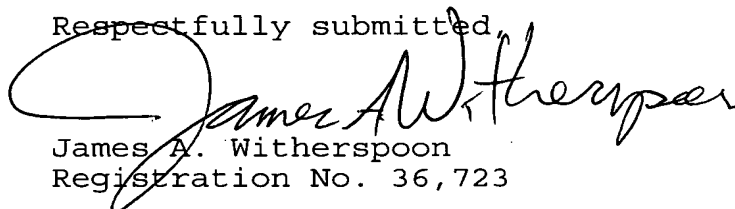


REMARKS

The above amendments are made to remove multiply dependent claims. Please enter this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Respectfully submitted,

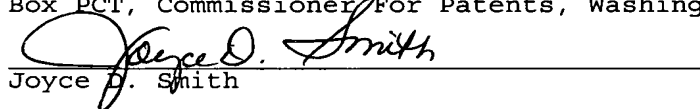

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Joyce D. Smith

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made:

Claims 3-7, 9, 11-14, 16-18, 22, 28 and 29 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 1[or 2], characterized in that the joint body (6,26,42) is made substantially cylindrical, and the joint receiver (7,27,42) has a substantially oval cross section.

4. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 1[or 2], characterized in that the joint body (6,26,42) has a substantially oval cross section and the joint receiver (7,27,46) a circular cross section.

5. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-4] claim 1, characterized in that two adjacent chain links (1,21,37) are adapted for pivoting relative to each other over a sector angle up to about 45°.

6. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-5] claim 1, characterized in that the joint body (42) is formed by joint body segments (43), which are separated from one another by slots (44).

7. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-6] claim 1, characterized in that the joint body (42) comprises in the region of its free end portion a radially outward directed collar (45).

9. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-8] claim 1, characterized in that the crosspiece (4,24) comprises a convexly curved portion (9,29), which lies in a plane extending substantially crosswise to the link plate (2,22) and engages an opposite portion (10,30) made to correspond with the convexly curved portion (9,29), the

portion (9,29) of the crosspiece (4,24) of a chain link (1,21) engaging the portion (10,30) of the crosspiece (4,24) of an adjacent chain link (1,21).

11. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 9[or 10], characterized in that at least the portion (9,29) and the portion (10,30) are made symmetrical with respect to an axis (11,31) extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the energy line guide chain.

12. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-11] claim 1, characterized in that two adjacent chain links (1,21) comprise two spaced-apart outer joint axes (13), that the adjacent chain links (1,21) comprise crosspieces (4,24), whose overall extension between the joint axes (13) is greater than the spacing between the outer joint axes (13).

13. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-12] claim 1, characterized in that at least two adjacent chain links (1,21) comprise two opposite crosspieces (5,25) extending in spaced relationship crosswise to the longitudinal direction of the energy line guide chain (12,35), wherein in a stretched state of the energy line guide chain (12,35), the crosspieces (5,25) of the adjacent chain links (1,21) extending in a common plane are spaced from one another, and wherein these crosspieces (5,25) adjoin one another in a curved region.

14. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-13] claim 1, characterized in that a crosspiece (40) is adapted for detachably connecting with its one end to a link plate (38), and that it connects to the other link plate (39) by means of a film hinge (48).

16. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 14 [or 15], characterized in that the crosspiece (40) forms a cover.

17. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 1-16] claim 1, characterized in that at least one link plate (38,39) comprises at its one end a stop element (61) and at its other end a stop surface (62), the stop surface (62) being designed and constructed substantially parallel to a center plane of the link plate (38,39).

18. (Amended) Energy line guide chain for running lines between a stationary and a movable connection, with jointed chain links (1,21,37) of plastic, in particular in accordance with [one of claims 1-16] claim 1, the guide chain comprising at least one connecting link (63), characterized in that the at least one connecting link (63) comprises a base body (64) with at least one receptacle (68), which is adapted for receiving a connection element mounted to a connection point, and a locking element (80) cooperating with the base body (64), which is used to secure the connection element to the base body (64).

22. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 19, [20, or 21,] characterized in that the locking element (80) is displaceably connected to the base body (64), so that in a locking position, the locking element (80) impedes at least the deflection capability of the wall (69), and facilitates it in another position.

28. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 18-27] claim 18, characterized that the receptacle (68) fully extends through the base body (64).

29. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of [one of claims 18-28] claim 18, characterized in that the receptacle (68) and the connection element are designed and constructed rotationally symmetric.